

VISIT...

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ANNE RICE'S

THE MUMMY



or Ramses the Damned

THE MUMMY

Or Ramses the Damned

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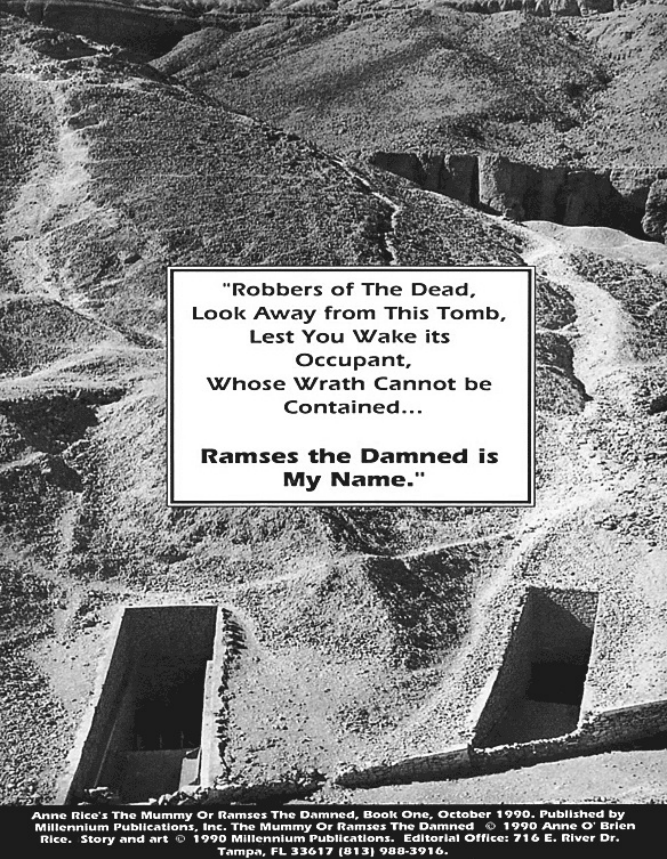
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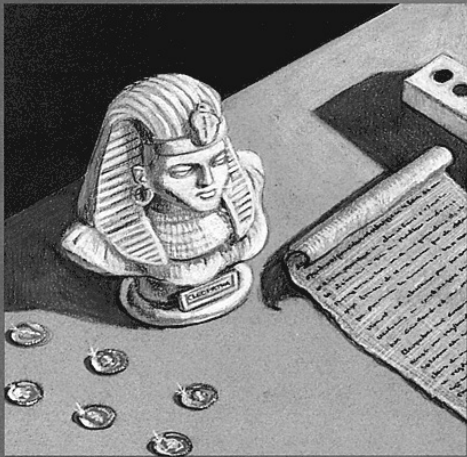
**"Robbers of The Dead,
Look Away from This Tomb,
Lest You Wake its
Occupant,
Whose Wrath Cannot be
Contained..."**

**Ramses the Damned is
My Name."**

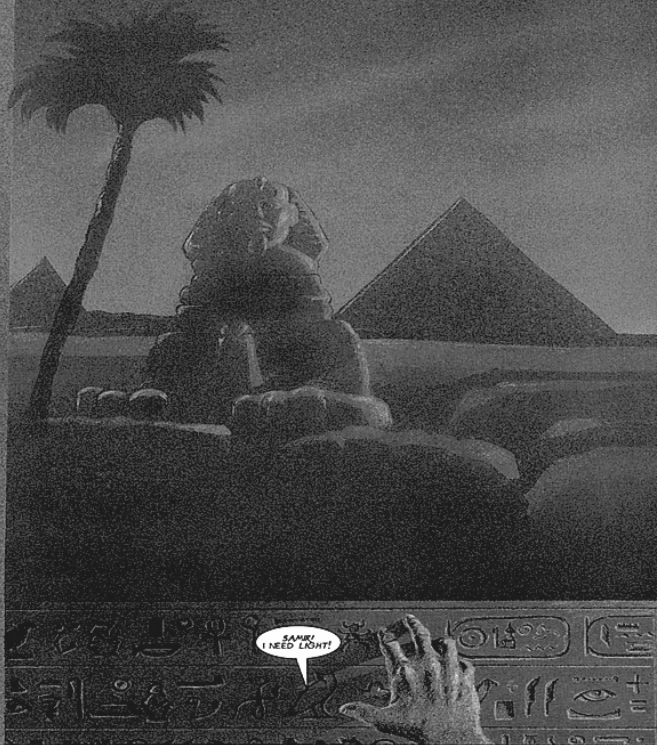
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\$2.50 U.S.
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SAMURAI
I NEED LIGHT!



"ROBBERS OF THE DEAD, LOOK AWAY FROM THIS TOMB! LET YOU WAKE ITS OCCUPANT, WHOSE WRATH CANNOT BE CONTAINED . . .

"RAMSES THE DAMNED IS MY NAME."



GO ON, LAWRENCE. TRANSLATE.

"ONCE RAMSES THE GREAT OF UPPER AND LOWER EGYPT AND IMMORTAL GUARDIAN OF THE KINGS AND QUEENS OF EGYPT THROUGHOUT TIME,

IN THE YEAR OF THE DEATH OF THE GREAT QUEEN CLEOPATRA, I COMMIT MYSELF TO ETERNAL DARKNESS.

BEWARE, ALL THOSE WHO WOULD LET THE RAYS OF THE SUN PASS THROUGH THIS DOOR."

I DON'T LIKE IT, WHATEVER IT MEANS, IT'S A CURSE.

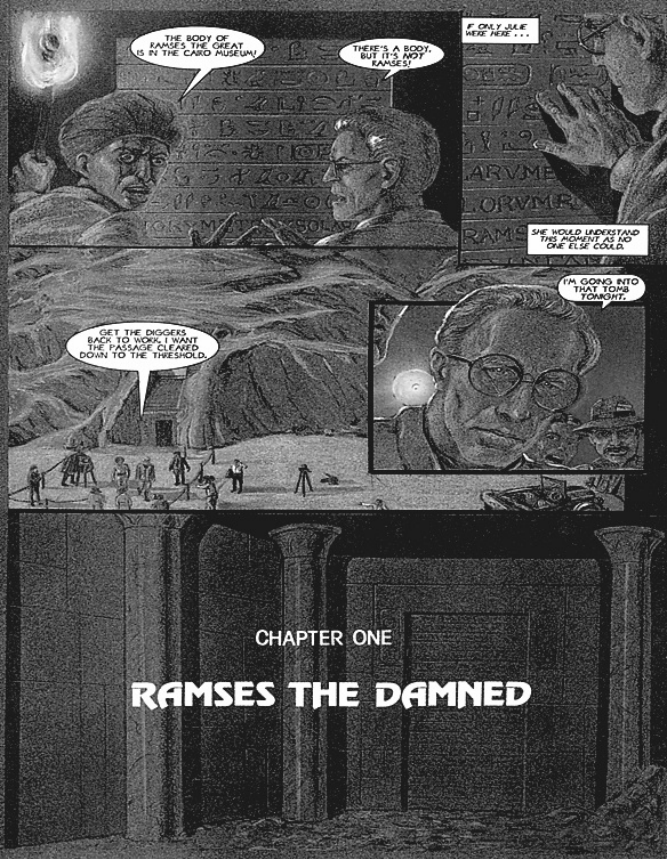


IT MAKES NO SENSE. RAMSES RULED ONE THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE CLEOPATRA.

YET THESE ARE NINETEENTH DYNASTY HIEROGLYPHS WITHOUT QUESTION.

LOOK, THE INSCRIPTIONS REPEATED - IN LATIN AND GREEK.





THE BODY OF
RAMSES THE GREAT
IS IN THE CARO MUSEUM!

THERE'S A BODY.
BUT IT'S NOT
RAMSES!

IF ONLY JULIE
WERE HERE . . .

SHE WOULD UNDERSTAND
THIS MOMENT AS NO
ONE ELSE COULD.

GET THE DIGGERS
BACK TO WORK. I WANT
THE PASSAGE CLEARED
DOWN TO THE THRESHOLD.

I'M GOING INTO
THAT TOMB
TONIGHT.

CHAPTER ONE

RAMSES THE DAMNED

ONLY ONE THING
DISTRACTED LAWRENCE
STRAITFORD FROM HASTILY
WRITING WHAT HE REMEMBERED
OF THE DOOR'S INSCRIPTION
AND THE QUESTIONS IT POSED ...

... A GLIMPSE OF HIS NEPHEW, HENRY.

IN A LIFE WELL-
LIVED, LAWRENCE
COUNTED HENRY AS
HIS ONLY TRUE
DISAPPOINTMENT --

RAMSES
THE DAMNED...

WHAT ON EARTH
DOES IT MEAN?

- THE NEPHEW
WHO CARED FOR
NO ONE AND
NOTHING BUT
GAMING TABLES
AND THE BOTTLE.

THE MARBLE DOOR HAD BEEN
CAREFULLY REMOVED...
THEY WERE READY TO BLAST
THEIR WAY IN.



LAWRENCE, THERE COULD
BE BOOBY TRAPS --



GET OUT
OF MY WAY.

THIS IS NO
TOMB!!

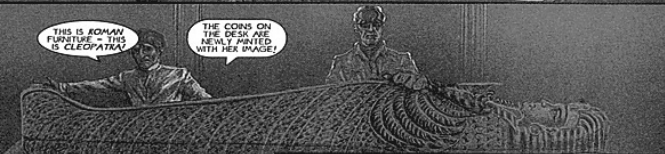


NOT POSSIBLE!



THIS IS ROMAN FURNITURE - THIS IS CLEOPATRA!

THE COINS ON THE DESK ARE NEWLY MINTED WITH HER IMAGE!



I KNOW, BUT HERE LIES AN ANCIENT PHARAOH, MY FRIEND.



IT'S ENOUGH TO GIVE A SENSIBLE MAN FAUSE.

"TOUCH NOT THE REMAINS OF RAMSES THE GREAT."

I SWEAR THIS IS ROMAN PERIOD. IT'S A ROMAN ARTIST WHO IMITATED THE NINETEENTH DYNASTIC STYLE!



NOT THIS SENSIBLE MAN. GET THOSE WORKERS IN HERE TO LIFT THIS LID AT ONCE.



THE DUST HAD SETTLED SOMEWHAT ...



THE THING NOW WAS TO CUT OPEN THE BUNDLED HUMAN SHAPE.



YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE.



THERE IS DANGER OF CONTAMINATION.



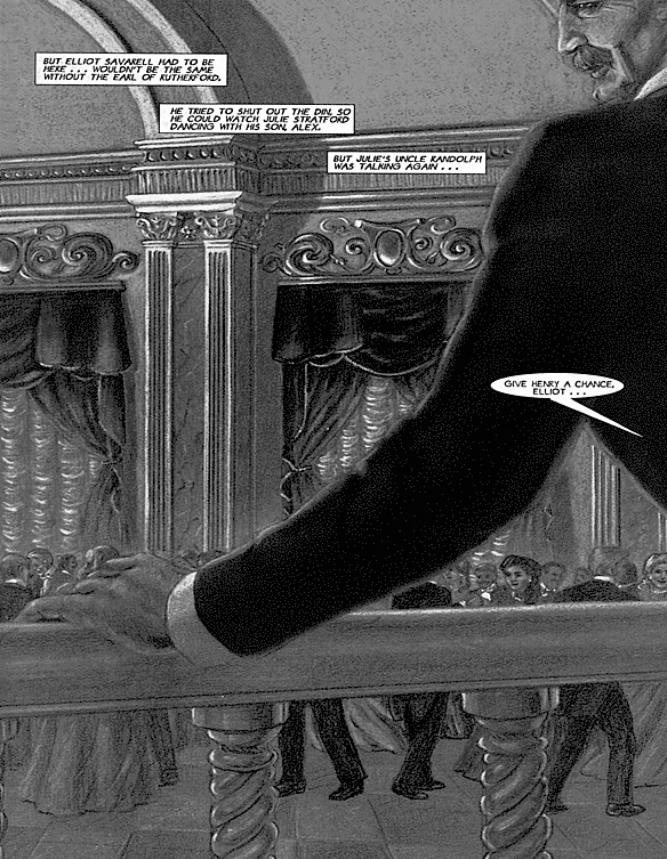
AH, JEE -
OH, MY DARLING,
IF ONLY YOU COULD SEE ...



THE EMBASSY BALL

SAME OLD FACES. SAME OLD ORCHESTRA,
SAME OLD SWEET, YET DROWNING WALTZ.





BUT ELLIOT SAVARELL HAD TO BE
HERE ... WOULDN'T BE THE SAME
WITHOUT THE EARL OF KUTHER'ORD.

HE TRIED TO SHUT OUT THE DIN, SO
HE COULD WATCH JULIE STRATFORD
DANCING WITH HIS SON, ALEX.

BUT JULIE'S UNCLE RANDOLPH
WAS TALKING AGAIN ...

GIVE HENRY A CHANCE,
ELLIOT ...



"HE'S ONLY BEEN
IN EGYPT A WEEK,
AND IF LAWRENCE
WILL TAKE THE
INITIATIVE --"

"WHY SHOULD
LAWRENCE
DO THAT?"



"IF LAWRENCE WOULD
EXPRESS HIS WISH ABOUT
THIS MARRIAGE . . ."



"AND THE SMALL MATTER
OF TWENTY THOUSAND
POUNDS?"

"EDITH WILL BE BACK
FROM FRANCE IN A WEEK.
SHE'S CERTAIN TO NOTICE
THAT HER NECKLACE IS
MISSING."

"SHE ALWAYS
DOES."



"IF IT GOES AS
I HOPE, I'LL PAY
YOU EVERYTHING
I OWE YOU --"

"--AND THE MARRIAGE
WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN
SIX MONTHS."



"RANDOLPH, THE
MARRIAGE MAY OR
MAY NOT SOLVE
THINGS FOR BOTH
OF US."

"DON'T
SAY THAT,
OLD BOY."

- IF YOU WANT TO LIVE IN EGYPT AND DIG FOR MUMMIES WITH YOUR FATHER, WE'LL GO TO EGYPT.



WE'LL GO STRAIGHT AFTER THE WEDDING.



ALEX, I'M JUST NOT READY.



WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH A SUFFRAGETTE FOR A WIFE? AN EXPLORER? I WISH I WAS IN EGYPT WITH FATHER RIGHT NOW.



WE'LL GO THERE. ONLY MARRY ME BEFORE WE GO!



WHAT CAN I DO TO WIN YOU, JULIE?

ALEX, YOU WON ME LONG AGO.



THAT WAS LIE, WASN'T IT?

THERE WAS SOMETHING TRULY TERRIBLE ABOUT THIS MOMENT...







IMMORTAL!
IT MUST BE A HOAX.
RAMSES THE GREAT
GUARDING THE ROYAL
FAMILIES OF EGYPT FOR
A THOUSAND YEARS?
A LOVER OF CLEOPATRA?!

AH, BUT IT MAKES SUBLIME
SENSE! IF ANY WOMAN COULD
HAVE DRIVEN AN IMMORTAL MAN
TO ENTOMB HIMSELF, CLEOPATRA
WOULD BE THAT WOMAN!

idunt ut laboret dolore mag
nim quis no
si ut aliquin
r in re
olupta
ulla po
esenti
sint occ



AND THIS IS NONE
OTHER THAN A LETTER
FROM CLEOPATRA TO
RAMES!

A STORYTELLER,
LAWRENCE. THAT'S
WHAT THE MAN WAS.

IF YOU BELIEVE
IN THE CURSE, WHY
NOT IN AN
IMMORTAL MAN?

THE MUMMY IS AS
DEAD AS ANY IN
THE CARO MUSEUM.

AND YET THE KING --

- IS THE
CARTOON OF
RAMES THE GREAT.

SO WE HAVE NOT MERELY
A STORYTELLER, BUT A
COLLECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES.

IS THAT WHAT
YOU WANT ME
TO BELIEVE?

BAH!

AH, BUT OF COURSE --
THIS IS AN IMMORTAL MAN!

"AND SO I RETREAT TO THIS CHAMBER,
AND MY LIBRARY SHALL BECOME MY TOMB.
BUT NO KNIFE SHALL TOUCH ME; NO
CHALICEK SHALL EXTRACT THE HEART
AND BRAIN FROM MY IMMORTAL FOUL!"



MR. STRATFORD,
PLEASE LEAVE YOUR
UNCLE ALONE. LET HIM
SAVOUR HIS FIND.

THE HELL
I WILL -



- THIS IS A
FAMILY MATTER!



(WHAT WERE YOU
REALLY, MY ANCIENT FRIEND?
HAD? DELUDED?

OR JUST WHAT
YOU CLAIM TO BE?)



SPEAKING TO RAMSES
IN LATIN UNCLE?

OH, HE UNDERSTANDS
LATIN - -



- DON'T YOU
RAMSES?



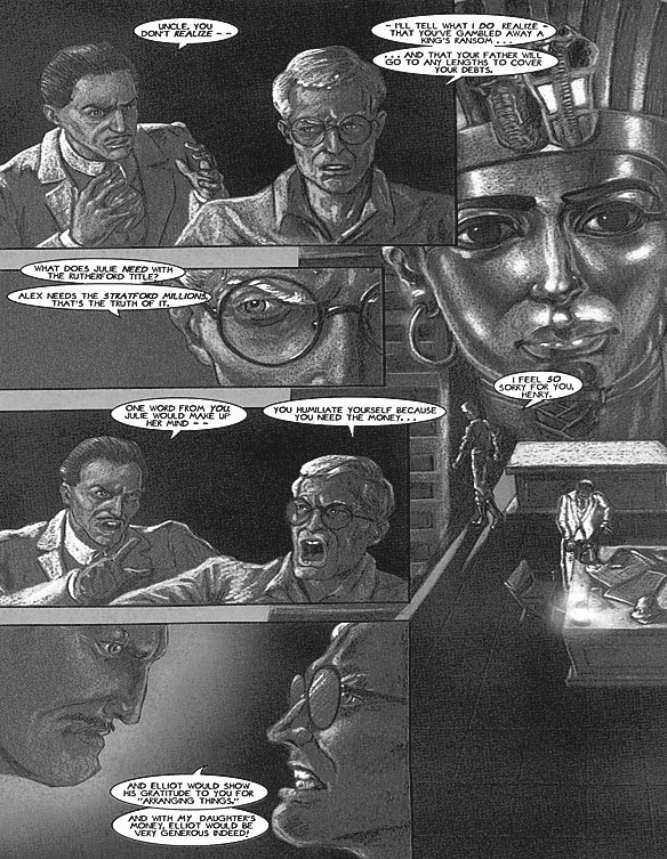
I DON'T THINK HE
CAN HEAR YOU,
UNCLE - -



DON'T TOUCH THAT!
IT'S POISON, YOU UNBECLE!!







UNCLE, YOU
DON'T REALIZE --

- I'LL TELL WHAT I DO REALIZE -
THAT YOU'VE GAMBLED AWAY A
KING'S RANSOM -

AND THAT YOUR FATHER WILL
GO TO ANY LENGTHS TO COVER
YOUR DEBTS.

WHAT DOES JULIE NEED WITH
THE RUTHERFORD TITLE?
ALEX NEEDS THE STRATFORD MILLIONS.
THAT'S THE TRUTH OF IT.

ONE WORD FROM YOU
JULIE WOULD MAKE UP
HER MIND --

YOU HUMILIATE YOURSELF BECAUSE
YOU NEED THE MONEY. . .

I FEEL SO
SORRY FOR YOU,
HENRY.

AND ELLIOT WOULD SHOW
HIS GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR
"ARRANGING THINGS."

AND WITH MY DAUGHTER'S
MONEY, ELLIOT WOULD BE
VERY GENEROUS INDEED!

I'M SO SORRY THAT YOU CAN'T
SAVOUR SUCH A DISCOVERY.
THIS ANCIENT MYSTERY.

DRINK YOUR COFFEE,
UNCLE LAWRENCE.

I POURED IT
FOR YOU.



FOR THE LOVE
OF GOD!!



YOU
BASTARD!!!



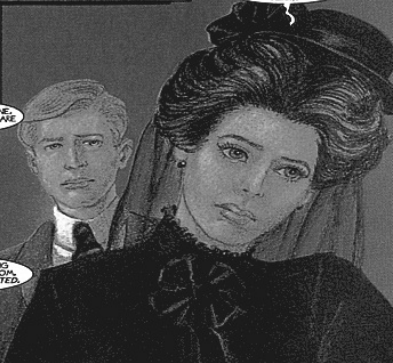


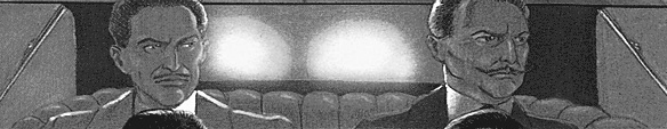
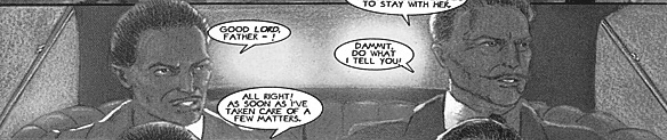
MUMMY'S CURSE KILLS STRATFORD SHIPPING MAGNATE





HENRY.
THE LAST PERSON IN THE
WORLD I WANT TO SEE IS
HENRY.







WELL, I'D JUST ABOUT GIVEN UP ON YOU, I HAD!

HELLO, DARYL.



NOT TOO ROUGH, SR!

WHY NOT?

RING
RING



HELLO?

I TOLD
YOU NOT TO CALL
AGAIN, SHARPLES!

I TOLD YOU I'D
PAY WHEN I GOT BACK.



SUPPOSE YOU GIVE
ME TIME TO UNPACK
MY TRUNK!



CRITN!

COME HERE TO ME,
SWEETHEART.

clik

ANOTHER STREAK
OF BAD LUCK,
SR?

LET ME ALONE,
SHARLES!

DASH, DASH,
I GIVE YE YOUR
ANSWER DOOOO

NOT WITHOUT A
LITTLE INTEREST
ON ACCOUNT, SR.

DO YOU REALIZE
WHAT THIS IS
WORTH, YOU IMBECILE?

AH, NOW
THAT'S A REAL
ARK-KAY-O-LOGICAL
BEAUTY, SR!



PINCHED IT, DIDN'T YOU?
FROM YOUR UNCLE'S TREASURE?

BUTTER WOULDN'T
MELT IN YOUR MOUTH,
WOULD IT SR?

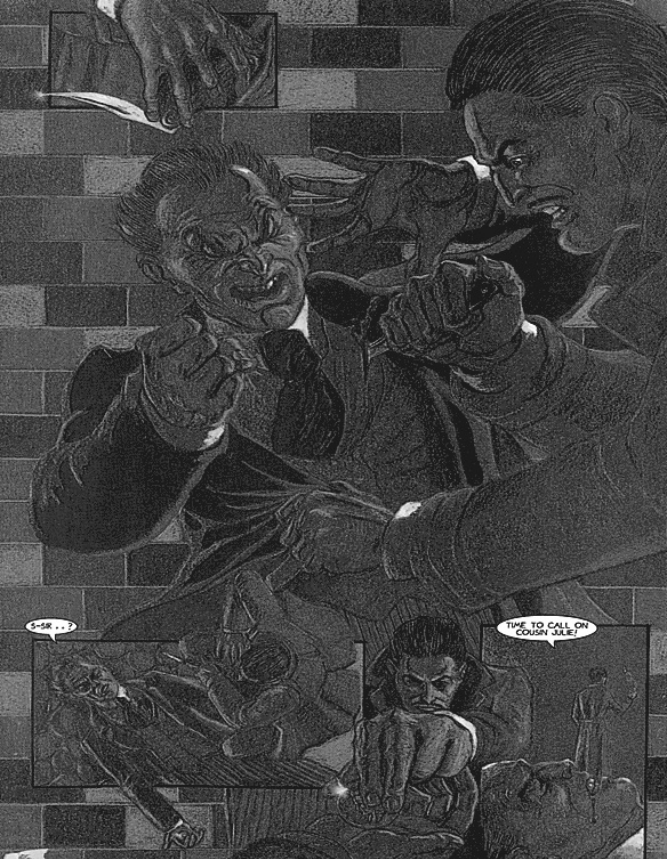
WAS HE STILL LYIN'
THERE, GAS'Y, WHEN
YOU PINCHED IT?

TAKE IT OR
LEAVE IT!

GO TO
HELL.

THIS WON'T COVER IT.
NO SR, NOT BY A LONG SHOT!

SEEMS YOU NEED
A LITTLE LESSON
IN PAYIN' YOUR
DEBTS, SR!



S-SR...?

TIME TO CALL ON
COUSIN JULIE!



I AM UNEASY ABOUT THIS DISCOVERY. I AM UNEASY ABOUT THE MUMMY AND THE POISONS CONTAINED IN THE TOMB.

EVERYTHING IS LABELLED. THE SERVANTS HAVE BEEN TOLD.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN THE CURSE, NOW DO YOU?

TRUE CURSES ARE RARE IN EGYPT. BUT THE ADMONITIONS ON THE MUMMY CASE ARE MOST SEVERE.

THERE ARE MORE DETAILS - THE STORY OF THE CREATURE'S IMMORTALITY - IN YOUR FATHER'S NOTEBOOK.

YOU DON'T THINK FATHER REALLY SURRENDERED TO A CURSE, DO YOU?

NO, BUT THE THINGS IN THE TOMB DEFY EXPLANATION. I ASK ONLY THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING FOR GRANTED -

- AND THAT YOU CALL ME AT ONCE IF YOU NEED ME.

RAMSES ...
RAMSES THE GREAT
OF UPPER AND LOWER
EGYPT ...

SLAYER OF THE
HITTITES ...
RULER OF EGYPT FOR
SIXTY-FOUR YEARS ...

RAMSES THE IMMORTAL?
RAMSES THE DAMNED?

WAS THE DARK MUSTY SMELL
FADING? WAS THAT SUDDEN
SOUND JUST THE BREATH OF
THIS GREAT HOUSE?

OR WAS IT THE MUMMY, SIGHING
LIKE A FLOWER OPENING? WHAT
A TANTALIZING ILLUSION! AND
YET, IT DID SEEM --

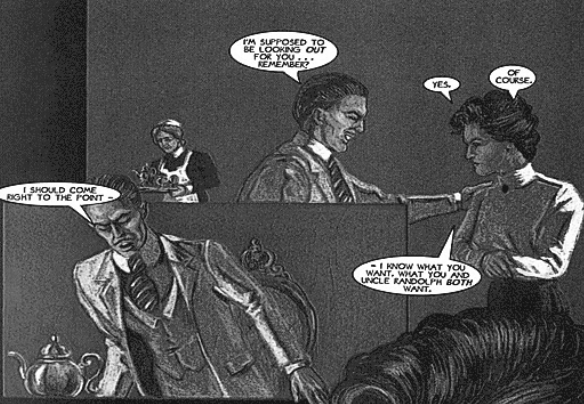


OH, RAMSES ...



YOU WILL
LIVE FOREVER -





I'M SUPPOSED TO
BE LOOKING OUT
FOR YOU...
REMEMBER?

YES.

OF
COURSE.

I SHOULD COME
RIGHT TO THE POINT -

I KNOW WHAT YOU
WANT. WHAT YOU AND
UNCLE RANDOLPH BOTH
WANT.



AND I KNOW WHAT YOU
BOTH NEED. WHAT FATHER
LEFT YOU WON'T BEGIN
TO COVER YOUR DEBTS.
LORD, YOU'VE MADE A
MESS OF THINGS!

THE SANCTIMONIOUS SUFFRAGETTE.
YOU'LL TRY YOUR HAND AT BUSINESS
NOW, I SUPPOSE?



WHAT ELSE CAN
I DO LET IT ALL
SLIP THROUGH YOUR
FATHER'S FINGERS?

HENRY...
I DON'T KNOW YET.



WHAT ARE YOU TELLING
ME? THAT YOU'LL ASK
FOR OUR RESIGNATIONS?

IS THAT IT?



AND WHEN YOU MARRY,
WILL YOU DESERT US,
AS WELL?

GO AWAY AND
LEAVE ME ALONE,
HENRY!



TRUST FUNDS, SALARIES, BONUSES
YOU HAD EVERYTHING,
BOTH OF YOU.



LOOK, I DON'T
WANT THIS QUARREL
ANY MORE THAN
YOU DO.



COME AND HAVE A
CUP OF COFFEE
WITH ME, JULIE.



